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Penn Students Boo Supporter Of Castro

They Hoot and Yell As Panel Endorses Cuban Revolution

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Of The Bulletin Staff

"Castro Sil" printed in bold letters one-and-one-half inches high appeared in advertisement in yesterday's edition of the Daily Pennsylvanian, student newspaper of the University of Pennsylvania.

It was an announcement for an afternoon panel discussion sponsored by the International Affairs Association, a student organization.

The panel of six was made up of members of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee, a member of the 26th of July Movement and a diplomat from Panama.

Most Disagree

Nearly 200 students attended the session in Houston Hall Auditorium, most of them disagreeing with the panel's philosophy.

Hisses, boos, shouts, mocking laughter and even long enthusiastic applause filled the room as speeches were being made.

A few minutes before the discussion got under way, a loud firecracker exploded outside the door of the second floor auditorium.

However, there was no other major disturbance except for students who jumped from their chairs and shouted questions vehemently at the panel.

Charges Press Lied

Melvin Metelits, a teacher at Cleveland Elementary School, 19th and Butler sts., was introduced as one of the founders of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee.

"The American press has lied, distorted and omitted facts about the Cuban revolution," Metelits charged, "and it hasn't stopped yet."

He reviewed newspaper accounts of the revolution and said nearly every fact was wrong and had been printed in the newspapers by the Central Intelligence Agency.

Castro Is Popular

"The CIA spent \$45 million on the invasion," Metelits said. "The CIA gets a blank check, and the money is spent without our knowledge or consent."

Metelits said that Fair Play for Cuba was not made up of all pro-Castro members. He said they were not all anti-U. S., either.

He said he merely wanted the students to be informed of what he called the real facts about Cuba. He pointed out that 80 per cent of the Cuban people backed Castro, according to a poll taken in the summer of 1960 by Princeton University.

"No president since Washington has enjoyed such popularity," Metelits concluded.

Denounces U. S.

Most of the unfavorable reaction came during the speech given by Amable Martinez, a member of the 26th of July Movement.

His fiery speech in Spanish was interpreted by his 18-year-old daughter, Carmen, who is a senior in an Elizabeth, N. J., high school.

Martinez said the United States started the invasion of Cuba in 1902 with the Platt amendment which permitted the U. S. to set up military bases and business monopolies on the island.

"Our people used to work like slaves for the United Fruit Co.," Martinez said as the audience began hissing. "Then the United States began taking over our telephones, electric power.

Tempers Flare at Campus Meeting



Speech given in Spanish by Amable Martinez is interpreted by his daughter, Carmen, during a discussion on Cuba at the University of Pennsylvania.

